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# PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF PARIS.\*

IN the concluding number of the fourth volume of the Paris society's *Transactions*, we have an extremely interesting analysis, by Dr. D. Lubach of Haarlem, of his work upon the inhabitants of the Netherlands, or at least upon that part of it which relates to their anthropology. Dr. Lubach considers that, before the arrival of the Germanic races, the primitive inhabitants of the Netherlands belonged to the race by which Germany itself was originally peopled. He says that the primitive stone monuments known here under the name of *Hünebedden* are precisely similar to the *Hünebetter* and *Riesengräber* of the north-west of Germany, and to the *Jettegrafvar* and *Steenhamner* of Scandinavia; and that the arms and other stone objects found in all these are similar. But whereas, with these objects, in Germany have been found skulls belonging to this primitive population, and entirely differing in form from the German type, in the Netherlands it appears that the objects of art alone have been preserved; whilst, unfortunately for anthropological science, any human remains that may have been discovered have been cast aside as worthless, and irrecoverably lost.

Notwithstanding this want of data, Dr. Lubach affirms that the aboriginal inhabitants of the Netherlands are brachycephalic, short or of middle height, and probably with black hair and eyes, resembling more or less the primitive people of Scandinavia, and forming an intermediate race between these and the Gauls. To this original race succeeded immediately the Germanic races. In the time of the Romans, a chain of Germanic peoples extended along the shores of the North Sea. Of all these peoples, except the Menapii of Zealand and Flanders, the Frisons were the only ones who dwelt in the Netherlands. If we consider the Menapii as belonging to the same group as the Frisons, then the chain of Cimbro-Menapian tribes was interrupted, between the Rhine and the Saal, by two Germanic peoples, which had come, during the historic period, from the heart of Germany. These were the *Batavii* and *Caninefutes*, tribes which had originated in Hesse. Then the *Chamavii*, the *Salii*, the *Tubantes*, the *Toxandri* went to complete the population at the time of the Roman domination. The Franks and Salii made their appearance probably about the middle of the fourth century, and the Saxon towards the end. In the time of the emperor Julian, the Batavians,

\* Bulletins de la Société d'Anthropologie de Paris, vol. iv, 4ème Fascicule, Sept. to Dec., 1863; vol. v, 1er Fascicule, Jan. to March, 1864.

whose name only remains as the name of their island, formed a portion of the Frank confederacy. From Batavia and the north of Belgium the Salian Franks gradually extended their dominion towards the south. At last, their king, Hlodwig (Clovis), having become chief of all the Frank tribes, conquered a great part of the Gauls, and established the Merovingian dynasty.

The Frisons took a considerable part in the invasion of Great Britain by the Saxons towards the end of the fifth century. Several English ethnologists believe that the county of Kent was principally peopled by the Frisons. During the struggle between the Frank and Saxon kings, which commenced in the sixth century and lasted more than three hundred years, the Frisons formed a portion of the Saxon league. After their conversion, by the English missionaries, to Christianity, however, being subjected to persecution by their pagan kings or chiefs, they became dissatisfied with their government; and in 775 they agreed to be incorporated in the Frank empire. The important ethnological division of the Netherlands into Frisons, Saxons, and Franks dates from this time. After tracing at considerable length the various modifications, re-divisions, and changes of locality of these peoples, and describing their peculiar characteristics, Dr. Lubach proceeds to describe the characters of the skulls of the different races. The Frison skull presents, according to his description, a strongly-marked dolichocephalic form, a high forehead, the occiput very prominent by the development of the tuber occipitalis externus, as is also seen in the majority of Scandinavian skulls; vertex cranii depressed and slightly arched; facial angle rather large; nasal bones ordinarily large and prominent; lower jaw generally high; chin much produced, but rather retrocedent. The characters of the undoubtedly non-Frisic skulls which he had seen are the following: antero-posterior diameter shorter; transverse diameter, or the contrary, longer than in the Frisons; zygomatic arch larger and more arcuated; inion slightly or not at all prominent; the curved line between the root of the nasal bones and the foramen magnum, which he terms the cranial arch, more highly vaulted than in the Frisian skulls. All the head has a more globular, and often a more squared form. The facial angle of these skulls does not differ from those of the Frisians; but the face is shorter and broader, which is partly at least due to the less height of the lower jaw and the greater prominence of the zygomatic bones.

The next paper, upon the Mincopies, or inhabitants of the Andaman Islands, by M. Broca, is to a certain extent a *résumé* of Professor Owen's paper, read before the British Association in 1861, and with which our readers are doubtless already familiar. M. Broca adds, however, some most valuable critical observations.

It appears that the Société d'Anthropologie de Paris resolved, some time ago, to publish a coloured plate shewing the principal types of colour of the human hair, skin, and eyes, arranged in a systematic gradation of shades and accompanied by numbers referring to and explaining the different tints. Upon the completion of the third portion of this work, viz., that shewing the different tints of the eye, M. Broca read a very interesting paper, shewing how the information he has supplied has been arrived at.

The first difficulty which M. Broca had to contend with, was the rendering, by a single tint, the variety of shades to be found in different portions of the iris. The shade required was the *medium* shade, or mean quantity of colouring matter to be found distributed in the various shades of the iris. This was only to be obtained by placing the eye at such a distance that all the partial tints became confounded or united in a single colour. The delicacy required in this operation may be readily imagined. The most embarrassing point, says M. Broca, was the choice of the types of which the table should be composed. There is a certain number of colours which are very frequently met with; others are more rare, but must still necessarily be represented; there are even rare shades which are most difficult to characterise by description, and which it is consequently more important to place before the eyes of travellers as points of comparison. M. Broca commenced by reproducing, after nature, the most common colours, and found that they could be arranged in a small number of natural groups, each of which included all the fundamentally similar colours, or darker or lighter tints of the same colours. The colours were arranged upon the principle of M. Chevreul (who shewed that every colour leads from black to white by imperceptible gradations), each commencing with the deepest and leading down to the lightest shade. The first table composed consisted of three series, each consisting of four or five shades. In order to elaborate this, M. Broca availed himself of the assistance of Dr. Siebel and of M. Boissonneau *fils*, the first of whom supplied him with a number of paintings in water-colours of various coloured eyes, which enabled him to make what would appear to be a complete table of the different colours of eyes to be found amongst the population of Paris. The information obtained from M. Boissonneau was, if not more valuable, at all events much more varied. That gentleman has carried the art of manufacturing artificial eyes to the greatest possible perfection, and has consequently obtained for himself a *clientelle* in all parts of the world. As each artificial eye has to be made either from minute inspection or from an accurate painting of the natural one with which it is to correspond, and as M. Boissonneau always causes duplicate specimens of

all that he makes to be preserved, it may be inferred that his collection was of the utmost use to M. Broca in assisting him in the completion of his series, containing, as we are informed it does, eyes of Chinese, Negroes, Hindoos, Peruvians, Arabs, Egyptians, and inhabitants of all parts of Europe, all of which were freely placed at M. Broca's disposal.

(*To be continued.*)

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## THE FOSSIL MAN OF ABBEVILLE AGAIN.

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WE have received a copy of *L'Abbevillois*, of the 19th July, which calls attention to the following facts, which are likely again to revive the much debated question relating to the Moulin-Quignon and Mesnières remains.

The neglected condition of a quarry, in which work was interrupted from the end of 1863 until May 1864, permitted M. Boucher de Perthes to pursue his researches without the intervention of any person. The workmen did not participate in these new discoveries; everything was seen in place, and taken from the bed by his own hand.

For a long while it had been remarked that osseous remains had been ordinarily enclosed in sandy agglomerations, which thereby often escaped observation by the geologists and by the excavators themselves. They noticed that the bones were incapable of recognition, and termed them *cailloux pourris*. The anatomists to whom they were shewn admitted that they were actually organic remains, but found they were too much broken or deteriorated to ascertain their exact nature.

Things were in this position since the discovery of the jaw. This confirmed M. de Perthes in his opinion that these neglected remains had more importance than was considered, and that there also were some human remains amongst them. With the perseverance by which he is known, he continued to explore the bed of Moulin-Quignon, making more than forty excavations from June 1863 to the present time.

Numerous fragments of human and animal bones discovered by him at two, three, and four metres from the surface, in undisturbed soil, and where there existed neither *éboulement*, nor fissure, nor even a sandpipe, were the recompense of this long labour. But, as it was not sufficient that these remains should be discovered by himself alone, it was necessary, in order to obviate contradiction,